

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 BIB-01 AGR-05

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R 051448Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0469

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 9204

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, ELTN, PINS, KE, ET

SUBJECT: JOINT KENYAN-ETHIOPIAN MEETING AND COMMUNIQUE

REF: ADDIS ABABA 8993

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL:

SUMMARY: THE JULY 30-AUG. 1 JOINT ETHIO-KENYAN CONSUL-
TATIONS PRIMARILY CENTERED ON BILATERAL ECONOMIC MATTERS.
THE MAIN REASON FOR HOLDING THE TALKS AT THIS TIME, HOW-
EVER, WAS TO DEMONSTRATE ETHIOPIAN-KENYAN SOLIDARITY AT
A TIME WHEN BOTH ARE UNDER EXTERNAL PRESSURES. CONTEN-
TIOUS ISSUES, SUCH AS ETHIOPIAN EMIGRES IN KENYA WERE
ALSO DISCUSSED AND, THE CONFEREES HOPE, SMOOTHED OVER.

END SUMMARY. END CONFIDENTIAL.

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BEGINUNCLASSIFIED:

1. ETHIOPIAN-KENYAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (CF REFTEL) ISSUED A JOINT COMMUNIQUE AUG. 1. COMMUNIQUE STATED COMMISSION HAD DISCUSSED "WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS COVERING AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST." ITEMS OF DISCUSSION MADE PUBLIC INCLUDE ROAD TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS, MAIL EXCHANGE, THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGH CAPACITY MICROWAVE RADIO LINK BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND KENYA AND MUTUAL COORDINATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND TOURISM.

2. THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO A) EXCHANGE TRADE DELEGATIONS; B) ESTABLISH A JOINT GROUP OF EXPERTS TO SURVEY MARKETING AND THE POSSIBLE JOINT DEVELOPMENT OF THE DAWA RIVER SUB-BASIN; C) LAUNCH AN INTEGRATED STUDY OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT; D) SET UP A PERMANENT SECRETARIAT FOR INTEGRATED REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER JOINT VENTURES; E) SUBMIT IMMEDIATELY THE ALREADY AGREED UPON PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR EEC FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE; AND F) EXCHANGE RADIO AND TV PROGRAMS AND TRAINEES. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL:

KENYAN CHARGE MBOYA TOLD EMBOFF THAT ETHIOPIA HAD BEEN VERY EAGER TO HOLD THE MINISTERIAL CONSULTATIONS. THE LAST ONE HAD BEEN HELD OVER A YEAR AGO. ETHIOPIA WAS STILL SMARTING OVER KENYAN TREATMENT GIVEN TO A DIRG DELEGATION IN EARLY 1975. AT THAT TIME, ADDRESSEES WILL REMEMBER A DIRG DELEGATION ARRIVED IN NAIROBI WITHOUT WARNING AND WAS ALMOST TOTALLY SNUBBED BY THE KENYAN GOVERNMENT. GIVEN THE INCREASINGLY LEFTIST DIRECTION OF THE ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION AND ITS EVER GREATER CONTRAST WITH THE FREE ENTERPRISE-ORIENTED KENYAN SYSTEM, THE EPMG HAD DEVELOPED THE ERRONEOUS BELIEF, MBOYA SAID, THAT KENYA WAS NOT EAGER TO CONTINUE CLOSE BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA. THE CONSULTATIONS HAD BEEN TWICE POSTPONED FOR REASONS HAVING NOTHING TO DO WITH THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. KENYA FELT IT WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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NECESSARY, MBOYA SAID, TO DEMONSTRATE THE IMPORTANCE IT PLACES ON RELATIONSHIPS WITH ETHIOPIA AND THEREFORE AGREED TO THE CONSULTATIONS AT THIS TIME. IT WAS ALSO A GOOD TIME, HE ADDED, TO DEMONSTRATE CLOSE ETHIO-KENYAN CO-OPERATION. THE CONSULTATIONS, HE COMMENTED, WENT WELL AND BOTH SIDES WERE PLEASED.

4. MBOYA SAID THE COMMUNIQUE REPORTED THE BULK OF THE

TOPICS OF CONVERSATION DURING CONSULTATIONS. CONSULTATIONS, HE SAID, STRESSED BILATERAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND COOPERATION. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ETHIOPIAN PORTION OF THE ADDIS-NAIROBI ROAD IS COMPLETED EXCEPT FOR 25 KILOMETERS. THIS LAST SEGMENT SHOULD BE FINISHED IN ONE OR TWO MONTHS. THE KENYAN PORTION, HOWEVER, IS IN VERY BAD CONDITION AND KENYA PROMISED TO UPGRADE IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

5. MILITARY COOPERATION AND BORDER PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY CONCERNING SOMALI-BACKED INSURGENTS, WERE DISCUSSED ONLY GENERALLY. A JOINT SUB-COMMITTEE DEALS WITH THESE PROBLEMS AND MEETS MORE FREQUENTLY THAN THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE.

6. MBOYA SAID THAT THE BORDER IS GENERALLY QUIET AND THE RESPECTIVE ETHIOPIAN-KENYAN BORDER POLICE WORK WELL TOGETHER. SOMALI INCURSIONS INTO ETHIOPIA FROM KENYA, MBOYA STATED, HAD DECREASED MARKEDLY SINCE THE NORTHERN FRONTIER DISTRICT'S GOVERNOR HAD WARNED THE LOCAL KENYAN POPULACE AGAINST PERMITTING SUCH MOVEMENTS.

7. THE ETHIOPIAN SIDE RAISED THE PROBLEM OF NUMEROUS ETHIOPIAN EMIGRES IN KENYA. THE KENYANS NOTED THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD REFUGEES BUT ASSURED THE ETHIOPIANS THAT THEY WOULD PERMIT NO ANTI-EPMG POLITICAL ACTIVITY BY THE EMIGRES IN KENYA.

8. COMMENT: THE MEETINGS, ALTHOUGH DEALING WITH A NUMBER OF BREAD AND BUTTER ECONOMIC ISSUES, WERE PRIMARILY A DEMONSTRATION OF JOINT ETHIO-KENYAN COOPERATION IN THE FACE OF THE EXTERNAL ADVERSITIES. IN ADDITION, IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT KENYA'S INTEREST IN CLOSE ETHIO-CONFIDENTIAL

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PIAN COOPERATION HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN LIGHT OF ITS PROBLEMS WITH UGANDA. END COMMENT. END
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